

I attended the NAM Summit in Belgrade as a guest, I did so in search of common ground on a variety of international issues, I was impressed by the new spirit of moderation shown by many members, as I was by the wise and deft chairmanship of Yugoslavia. I quote from their Final Declaration:

"We are not to be burdened with prejudice or dogma".

I attended the NAM Conference not because Canada is questioning its Alliances. We are a proud and permanent Member of NATO. We are committed to a market economy and liberal democracy. I attended because Canada happens to share a world with the Non-Aligned Movement.

At Belgrade, I took the opportunity to explore further the proposal made by India, Egypt, Senegal and Venezuela during the Paris Economic Summit for a serious and responsible dialogue on issues of concern to us all. Canada, along with France, supported it in principle at Paris. I reiterate that support now, and suggest some variations that may make the concept more effective.

We should all learn from the mistakes of our past, set aside our differing world views, and come together, collectively and calmly, to discuss particular problems whose resolution we all seek.

Canada believes it is useful to encourage intensive consultations leading to a new conversation between the developed and the developing world, a conversation on focussed issues, with a view to arriving at joint action for a common cause.

Conversation, not confrontation. We cannot remake the world anew. But we can - and we must - redress the errors of the past - methodically, pragmatically, realistically and collectively.

Discussions on the environment, on drugs, on investment, trade and debt are worthy of early pursuit. The agenda should be balanced, covering issues of interest to both the developed and developing world. We will be pursuing this question actively in the months ahead with our G-7 partners and the developing world. Soviet involvement in this effort would be welcome, giving them the opportunity to further act on their interest in contributing to the international order. It would also reflect the universal nature of this challenge.